

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEEK 14

MATTHEW 9:35-38

GOOD FRIDAY & EASTER SERVICES

Good Friday: April 14th at 7 and 8pm.
No Childcare available.

Easter: Services on Saturday the 15th at 6pm - nursery care only.
Sunday Morning at 8:15, 9:30 & 11am with full children's programs.

EKIDS! BAPTISM CLASS

Our Ekids! Baptism class is today at 11am, and is for parents and elementary children interested in being baptized. Come learn more about the what and why of baptism.

PLANTING ROOTS UPDATE

83% way through 3-year Journey
66% of commitments fulfilled
73% with non-commitments

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

Thank you for joining us today. This is a short note to let you know that we know what you are thinking: It is hot and cramped in this room. We want to acknowledge with you that yes, the front room is full, the kids rooms are full, and it can get warm. We are working on alleviating this right now by building our own building on the land just north of us.

There is a lot that goes into the process of Element having a permanent home, but we hope that today you are first drawn to Jesus before you are overwhelmed by anything else. If it gets too hot, we may hand out popsicles to help you cool off and give you a sugar rush. If you would like a service that has open seats (and is cooler), you are invited to our 8:15 am service. Please understand that all of these "challenges" are because of our love for Jesus, people, and growth that has come quickly. These are good things. We hope you will stay as we work to make more room for you to be part of the good thing Jesus is doing here. If you would like more information about our building process or how you can participate, you can visit: www.elementroots.org.

- The Element Team

AUTHORITY

TO SEND ON MISSION

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Matthew 9:35
Matthew 7:28-29
Matthew 9:35-38

Acts 1:4
2 Kings 17
2 Corinthians 5:20
1 Peter 2:9

Ephesians 2:10
Matthew 10:7
Luke 10:20

April 9, 2017

www.ourelement.org

AUTHORITY

TO SEND ON MISSION

WEEK 14 SERMON NOTES

Matthew rounds out His two chapters that focus on the **authority** of Jesus by reminding us that Jesus has sent His people out on mission with and for Him. He tells us to pray that the “Lord of the harvest” would send His workers out into that harvest. . . those workers are us. In an agricultural metaphor, Jesus is saying that God has done the work in people’s hearts before we ever go out and reap the harvest. When we pray for others to be drawn to Jesus, we must understand that we are part of the process.

Read Matthew 9:35-38.

Have you ever spoken to someone about Jesus?

What did you say?

How did it go?

Jesus reminds us that we are to go to those who we perceive as our friends and those we perceive as our enemies because true peace will only come as we all follow Him. We are to see ourselves, no matter where we are, as still being part of the mission of God, “*Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.*” We are also told that the reason He gave us His Spirit is so we would have power to be those witnesses.

When you think of God giving you power, what do you normally think that power is for?

Do you view God as pilot or co-pilot?

Do you LIVE as if Jesus is pilot or co-pilot?

Speaking to others about the “good news,” the Gospel is typically frowned upon in our society because we are told that no truth is higher than another. But Jesus clearly tells us to go. In Matthew 10, Jesus will tell His disciples to preach the gospel, to cast out demons, and to heal the sick.

- *Preach* means persuading of the truth.
- *Cast out demons* means to liberate people’s souls from what is enslaving them.
- *Heal the sick* means to actually mend bodies and communities.

These are all things Jesus did. Keller says, “*He worked to mend the fabric of the world, which is falling apart physically and sociologically. He brings people together. He brings bodies together.*”

How have you seen Jesus heal others using His people to do so?

Too many people have read the Sermon on the Mount, and Matthew 8-9, and are tempted to say, “Well, Jesus can just do it all,” but this is why Matthew 10 proceeds the way it does with an understanding of being sent. The word *send* in Latin is the word *mission*, *missio*. Everybody who comes into contact with Jesus, every disciple is on mission. We are called to not just know about God, we are to live with Him intimately. To be a disciple means to go in, to experience closeness to God through Jesus, to be healed, to be blessed, and then be sent out. God brings us in to bless us in order to send us back out to be a blessing. We are called to live for others in a way that sees *their* needs and *their* issues (not to always give them what they want), but to bless their life by giving what God knows they need: HIM! Mission and Message go hand in hand. We share and talk about what we know God has already done in us.

Briefly share what you have seen God do in your life.

We are not just sent; we are sent with the message of Jesus. We are sent not just to be neighbors, but *great* neighbors. We are meant to care about our communities, but also to care about all of the basic needs of the hurting. Every single disciple of Jesus is given a message they are to publicly communicate to others and urge everyone to believe it. Jesus sends us into the world to communicate the gospel. A “*gospel*” was news of an objective, history-changing event that changed everyone’s situation and everyone needed to respond to. It was not something to be kept hidden, it was meant to be proclaimed. Jesus rules and reigns in authority and that brings grace and peace to His people.

What is the Gospel?

How would you “proclaim the Gospel?”